

Horse barn shuttled a short distance



The old horse barn, located on South Campus since 1930, has been moved to make way for construction of the 60 Community Centre, a recreational facility, which is scheduled to open in the summer of 2011. See story, page 3.

Feds commit \$3M for isotope research

Noreen Remtulla

On March 29 the Government of Canada, through Western Economic Diversification Canada, committed \$3 million to the University of Alberta to purchase and install a 24MeV Cyclotron, which will increase the university's ability to contribute to the feasibility of producing technetium, a medical isotope, by methods that do not require a nuclear reactor.

Approximately 1.6 million tests using medical isotopes are performed annually in Canada and about 85 per cent of these tests use technetium. Sandy McEwan, professor and chair of the Department of Oncology with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, says these tests range from diagnosis of cancer to heart and kidney diseases.

"This cyclotron, located at the U of A, will attract new researchers to the province, build knowledge capacity and lead to new training opportunities for scientists, technicians and technologists," said McEwan.

McEwan and his team will work on validating the development of technologies using cyclotron-based manufacturing methods. They will also work to better enhance the production process of technetium and to potentially introduce this technology into daily clinical practice.

Technetium is used as a scanning agent to help diagnose and plan treatments for patients with a range of medical conditions including cancer and heart and kidney diseases. Technetium is only produced in a few aging reactor facilities in Canada, Europe and South Africa. Even with a single reactor out of commission, supply cannot meet demand, leading to cancelled medical tests.

Researchers are optimistic
continued on page 3

U of A board approves 2010-11 budget

Folio Staff

On March 26 the University of Alberta's Board of Governors approved a \$1.6 billion consolidated budget for the university's 2010-11 fiscal year, which began April 1. Also approved was the university's operating budget of \$871 million. Although the consolidated budget is in a positive position, the operating budget was approved with a \$14.7 million deficit.

University Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Carl Amrhein says it was an extremely challenging year for the university in preparing its 2010-11 budgets. The operating deficit, he said, ultimately results from the difficult economic times, and while the deficit will present challenges in the coming year for the university, the number could have been worse were it not for the university community effectively coming together to find solutions.

"As we went into planning for the 2010-11 fiscal year the projected budget gap was \$59 million. To reduce the gap by as much as we were able is a testament to the commitment of all groups at the U of A working together with the goal of

preserving the level of excellence in teaching, research and the student experience here. Getting to this budget was a remarkable exercise in collaboration and co-operation across the institution," Amrhein said. "The result is that the impact on the university will be as minimal as it can be given the economic realities."

Amrhein said the reduction in the budget gap was possible thanks to "balanced approach," which saw new revenue streams, reductions in expenditures and the achieving of greater administrative efficiencies.

The board approved a Common Student Space, Sustainability and Services fee. This is a new non-instructional fee for all full-time students of \$145 per term. Originally proposed at \$275 per term, the smaller fee will be in place for two years and reviewed annually.

"We reduced the fee in response to a lot of the conversations we've been having with leaders of the various student organizations and we think it is a balanced approach to maintain the quality of the institution and opportunities for the students, and yet still deal with the very legitimate student concerns about access to the institution," said Amrhein

A target of reducing expenditures by five per cent, or \$30 million, was included in the budget, along with both of the university's staff associations (academic and non-academic staff) agreeing to furlough days as a means of reducing staffing costs. Finally, administrative efficiencies were found totaling about \$10 million.

As a result of reducing budget expenditures by five per cent across the university, layoffs are inevitable. Such staffing implications are the responsibility of the university's faculties and operating units, and will take place as the university community begins to apply the required cut to their operations. However, Amrhein says the goal was to minimize the impact as much as possible.

"We will continue to look for savings and efficiencies within the university's budgets and continue to look for additional revenue to help offset that operating deficit," said Amrhein.

Faculty and staff were offered the option of taking five voluntary personal-leave days without pay. There is also a Voluntary Retirement Incentive Plan, which will provide an opportunity for long-serving faculty and staff to take

early retirement. The cost saving of these initiatives are still being calculated.

"The University of Alberta is operating in a North American if not global environment in which many of its peer institutions are facing similar pressures," said Amrhein. "If you look at the overall position of the University of Alberta, you could make a good argument that we are still better off."

U of A President Indira Samarasekera agrees that the university's collegial approach to the challenges faced in preparing the budget was instrumental in keeping the budget's impact as minimal as possible.

"We have faced and will continue to face tough financial choices as we put this budget into action," said Samarasekera. "Moving forward, our goal will continue to be to limit the loss of talented and valued staff and to sustain the excellence in teaching and research for which the university is recognized. In spite of current challenges, the University of Alberta is a very strong and vibrant institution, a leader in Canada and the world.

"There is no other university where I'd rather be." ■

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Snart reappointed as dean of education

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta has reappointed Fern Snart as dean of the Faculty of Education for a second five-year term of office, effective July 1.

"Fern Snart inspires by her passion and dedication; recognizes and positions talented people in roles of responsibility, and seeks to partner with colleagues in developing vision, strategies, and solutions," said Carl Amrhein, provost and vice-president (academic). "Fern knows how to listen effectively and this makes a difference in her support to others."

Taking the time to listen led Snart into an early career in clinical psychology. Born and raised in Dauphin, Manitoba, she began her university studies at Brandon University where she received a bachelor of arts in psychology, before working as a junior psychologist at an inpatient facility for adults and children. It was there that Snart says she developed an interest in clinical psychology.

"As a young psychologist my contact with parents and teachers shone a light on the importance of teachers," said Snart, who would go on to complete a master's of arts in clinical psychology at the University of Saskatchewan, and then make what would be her final move to the U of A. "My PhD research looked at cognition and the various ways that children experience challenges to learning. This led to looking at various kinds of process-based remedial programs for children with different

types of learning disabilities."

In 1993, Snart was awarded the Faculty of Education's Undergraduate Teaching Award. In 2001, Fern's three-person research team, which included Margaret Haughey and Joe da Costa, received the Alberta Teachers' Association Educational Research Award for their study of the effects of small class size on the achievement of inner-city students.

In 2005, Snart became the 10th dean of the Faculty of Education. With a clear interest in Aboriginal education established as part of her portfolio as vice-dean, Snart says education's selection committee also identified international outreach and research productivity as areas that needed to become faculty strengths.

"In terms of international, we had a lot going on previously, primarily very strong individual projects, but it was often not well known or co-ordinated. In 2005-06, we created an associate dean international position and the results have been remarkable," said Snart.

The turnaround has been transformative. Some of education's undergrads are now able to do their final student teaching placement in Macau, China, and all senior students can apply to do a field experience in global citizenship education in Ghana. The Ghana initiative now encompasses students from other faculties, and two teachers from Ghana each year, and it is an example of the strength of interdisciplinary study. Education researchers are now collaborating in

40 countries.

The Faculty of Education's Aboriginal Teacher Education Program has also been an outright success, providing better access to the U of A's bachelor of education degree by delivering the program through tribal and provincial colleges in Alberta. Education now boasts a 96 per cent Aboriginal graduation rate. "Almost all of these graduates are teaching within their communities and rate teaching awards. It really is a wonderful success story," said Snart.

In her time as dean the research productivity of her faculty has more than doubled, from \$15 million to \$32 million. Of the 41 doctoral Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council awards at the U of A, 14—or 34 per cent—went to education grad students in 2009.

While her first five years as dean might be a tough act to follow, Snart has already begun mapping out her faculty's future.

"We have almost finished a three-year review of our undergraduate offerings," she said. "We developed principles, reviewed the research and have a committee that has been working on updating the curriculum model. The next two or three years will be very important."

Snart says part of that curriculum overhaul will be attending to content and opportunities for pre-service teachers in areas such as teacher identity; the appropriate inclusion of students with a variety of learning needs based on diversity



Fern Snart

of language, physical and cognitive differences; cultural differences, including those of Aboriginal families; the appropriate integration of technology within various areas of pedagogy; sustainability in its various forms, and global citizenship education.

"Our program, frankly, is one of the stronger ones in Canada right now, but it is going to be remarkable."

And just like the previous five years, Snart says she knows she can count on the full support of the university's administration.

"Our current university leadership has a perception and appreciation of what a Faculty of Education can do. Unfortunately that is not always the case on campuses in Canada and the United States," said Snart. "The support and the respect at the U of A for the work of the faculty and for our researchers are remarkable. For me, that makes a huge difference." ■

Lynch accepts fourth term as dean of engineering

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta has reappointed David Lynch as dean of the Faculty of Engineering for another five-year term of office, effective July 1. This will be his fourth term as dean of engineering.

"The Faculty of Engineering has achieved a long list of accomplishments under the leadership of Dean Lynch over the last 15 years," said Carl Amrhein, provost and vice-president (academic). "Dean Lynch's greatest strengths are in assessing the status of the faculty, envisioning steps to advance to the next level and planning how to get there. He then continually plans, finds new pools of resources, engages others and builds."

Lynch, who was born and raised in Minto, New Brunswick, received his bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering from the University of New Brunswick in 1977. With a Governor-General's Gold Medal in tow—awarded to the undergraduate student who had achieved the most outstanding academic record in the overall UNB graduating class—Lynch came west to take on a PhD in chemical engineering at the U of A.

Lynch developed a productive research career in the areas of chemical reaction engineering and catalysis, in particular, the catalytic elimination of pollutants from automobile exhaust gases and the po-

lymerization of olefins. Along with his successes on the discovery front, Lynch showed an early aptitude for instruction, joining the Department of Chemical Engineering in January 1981 as an assistant professor. He has twice received the Faculty of Engineering Teaching Award (1989, 1993) and in 1993 he received the AC Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the highest teaching award at the U of A.

"I always enjoyed the excitement of involvement with the next generation in education and research," said Lynch, who still maintains a presence in the classroom, teaching ENGG 400, an engineering responsibilities and ethics course. "That's why I think professor is the best possible job in the world."

Lynch made the jump into administration as the associate dean of engineering in 1992. In the midst of the budget reductions of the mid-1990s, Lynch suddenly found himself in the role of acting dean. On July 1, 1995, he was named dean.

Faced with a university-wide 21 per cent budget reduction, Lynch says he saw those early days of his tenure as an "important transition point for the Faculty of Engineering."

"There was the opportunity to move out of a very difficult period and embark on fairly strong possibilities for future development," he said. "I have really enjoyed the continuing challenges, opportuni-

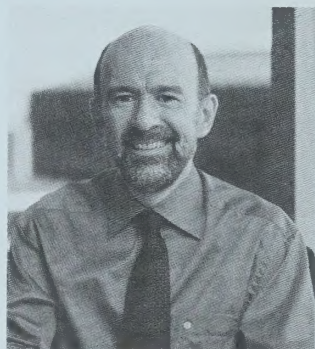
ties and the excitement of seeing the faculty develop in quite spectacular ways over the past 15 years."

In his role as dean of engineering, Lynch has been heavily involved in three main areas: the recruitment of outstanding students, the recruitment and retention of outstanding new faculty and the obtaining of resources to provide an exceptional educational and research environment for all students and staff.

Lynch says he has always been most proud of seeing the exceptional educational and research environment that the Faculty of Engineering has provided for the increasing numbers of students.

"Ultimately, the university is a people place: a place for the development of the people, and the support of the people for education, research and service," he said. "That's the thing that I continue to be most excited about and most proud about seeing-how that has developed spectacularly in the Faculty of Engineering."

Being careful not to take his eye off of the faculty's long-term goals, Lynch says he plans to improve faculty-student ratios to further increase the quality of the student experience and expand funding for undergraduate and graduate students. He plans to continue the growth of the faculty, meeting student enrolment targets and increasing the faculty complement with more high-quality appointments.



David Lynch

Lynch also wants to deal with some of the major issues concerning the renewal of the university's older engineering facilities as well as a major number of initiatives on the way including the Nano-Bio Accelerator, the Helmholtz-Alberta initiative and several other projects that have major national and international scope.

"What nobody knows today is what will be the new opportunities that will come available to us over the next five years," said Lynch. "What the previous 15 years as dean have demonstrated to me is that, at the start of a term as dean, the circumstances can change rapidly, both positively and negatively."

"The next five years will be marked by having a good long-term plan and the ability to develop and seize those opportunities as they come available, in the context of knowing where it is we want to go." ■

Radical research changes lab-on-a-chip design

Richard Cairney

A University of Alberta mechanical engineering professor has developed a new model that could revolutionize the design of hand-held devices that provide reliable, nearly instant medical or environmental tests.

"Lab-on-a-chip" technology has resulted in the development of new devices capable of testing samples of everything from water to blood. As the size of these devices decreases, designers have struggled to find a reliable way to control fluid flow through microchannels, which are an integral part of the technology.

Now, professor Sushanta Mitra and PhD student Prashant Waghmare have published research findings, which appeared as a featured article in the March issue of the scientific journal *Analytica Chimica Acta*, that address the problem. In order to use the technology to ana-

lyze fluids such as blood, the fluid sample is stored in a tiny reservoir on a glass chip and transported through a microchannel to a detection site, where the sample is typically detected and analyzed.

But getting the fluid from one reservoir to another can be challenging. Sometimes, physical forces known as capillary action are not adequate to move fluid through these tiny channels and if the sample is transported too quickly or too slowly, the analysis is inaccurate. In such situations, designers have placed electrodes beneath the microchannels and have tried to manipulate the transport of fluid using electrical fields.

Until now it has been an either-or situation, with chips being designed using capillary action or electroosmosis.

The model Mitra and Waghmare have developed takes both methods into account and represents a radi-

cal shift in microfluidic chip design. The pair has introduced a new non-dimensional number, which describes the interplay between capillary force and electroosmosis, to help design highly efficient chips that make the most of both effects.

"We are now able to control the flow by suitably manipulating the capillary action and the electric field, rather than designing chips by trial and error, which can be expensive and time consuming," said Mitra.

The design, Mitra says, could lead to devices that test for virtually anything.

For example, people at risk of heart attacks could be given hand-held devices to test their own blood for elevated levels of myoglobin, a protein which floods the circulatory system in the minutes leading up to a heart attack. With the prick of a finger, patients feeling unwell would be able to test their myoglobin levels and call for help if necessary. ■



Mechanical engineering PhD student Prashant Waghmare and professor Sushanta Mitra have developed a new approach to designing lab-on-a-chip devices.

Historic horse barn crosses the street

Michel Proulx

The old horse barn, located on South Campus since 1930, has been moved.

The 120-tonne structure, which is 120 feet long, 42 feet wide and 40 feet high, has been moved just west of its long-time home north of 65 Ave. and east 118 St. The barn will be moved again later this year to another temporary location near the composting facility, which is just south of the dairy barn. The move, which was completed in a little over two hours, was necessitated by the construction of the GO Community Centre, a recreational facility which is scheduled to open in the summer of 2011.

"It was exciting to watch. I'm glad they're keeping the barn. It has a lot of historical significance because it was among the first 15 buildings built on the original U of A campus and is still structurally sound," said Jack Francis, one of several people with ties to the building who were on hand to witness the move, including his wife Joyce, Barry Irving, the manager of research stations, agriculture professor emeritus Mick Price,

professor Frank Robinson and alumnus Reg Norby.

Francis, a former animal technician, worked on South Campus from 1949 until his retirement in 1992. In 2000, he was part of a group that gathered almost 400 items used by various agriculture departments to create the agriculture museum, which was located in the barn. He continues to maintain the museum, which has been relocated to another barn on site.

Officials are working on finding a permanent location for the horse barn to maintain its historic significance while contributing to the fabric of South Campus. Francis said he was looking forward to the permanent relocation of the barn so the museum may be put back in it.

The barn was built in 1920 on the site where the Stollery Children's Hospital stands today. It was moved, along with four other buildings, to South Campus in October 1930.

Alumnus Gerry Heath remembers that move. Thirteen years old at the time, he could see the buildings go by on 112 St. from his kitchen window. The barn was cut in three pieces to facilitate the move.

"It was a big spectacle for us,"

he says. "I remember those 14- by 14-inch beams they used to raise the buildings."

He also remembers that it was Marks Brothers Co. that moved the building. In an ironic twist of fate, Marks Brothers were eventually bought by the father of the owner of McConnell Building Movers, the company that moved the barn this time.

Once it was relocated on South Campus, the barn was used until 1955 to house three breeds of draft horses, hence its designation. Belgian, Clydesdale and Percheron horses were used to teach students how to judge and were also bred, raised and sold to area farmers as horses were in high demand to do fieldwork.

By 1955, the horses were gone and the barn was used to house a few sheep and a provincial lab until 1966, when a quarter of the barn was converted into a meat research lab where Price did much of his work, and the rest of the barn was used to store feed. In 2000, the meat research lab was converted again, this time into the museum, which grew and ended up taking half the space. ■

Isotope research *continued from page 1*

about the cyclotron. In 2002, the Cross Cancer Institute installed one to manufacture radiopharmaceuticals for PET scanning, which is a relatively new, sensitive test for evaluating patients with cancer. These PET radiopharmaceuticals are shipped to hospitals in Edmonton, Winnipeg and Calgary.

"This project," said McEwan, "has the potential to develop a research group in medical cyclotron research at the University



Sandy McEwan

of Alberta that is an international leader and to attract students and researchers to the faculty." ■

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Al Kalantar, whose name was drawn as part of *Folio's* March 26 "Are You a Winner?" contest, after he correctly identified the photo in question as metal sculpture located in the northeast corner of the law building. For his effort, Kalantar has won U of A writer-in-residence Hiromo Goto's award-winning novel, *Half World*, as well as lime green Healthy Workplace Month t-shirt.

Up for grabs this week is a

copy of *People of the Lakes: Stories of Our Van Tat Gwich'in Elders/Googwandak Nakhwach'anjóo Van Tat Gwich'in* by Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation and Shirleen Smith courtesy of The University of Alberta Press.

To win, simply identify where on campus the object of the picture is located. Email your correct answer to folio@exr.ualberta.ca by noon on Friday, April 16, and you will be entered into the draw.



President's Town Hall

PLEASE JOIN PRESIDENT INDIRA V. SAMARASEKERA FOR A TOWN HALL DISCUSSION OF OUR FUTURE.

Wednesday, April 14

Noon to 1:30 pm
Tory Lecture Theatre Complex
(the Tory Turtle), TL-11

- What core values and principles define who we are and what we do?
- How can we renew our purpose and confidence within?
- How do we position ourselves to surge forward when opportunities arise?

The town hall will begin with a short presentation by President Samarasekera, followed by an open and lively discussion of the steps we must take to preserve our strengths and continue fulfilling our promise as a great university.

All U of A faculty, staff, and students are welcome. Please submit your online registration at www.president.ualberta.ca/events/vp.cfm Enter code 10XX

ASL-English interpreting services will be provided. Real-time captioning (CART) or other disability-related services or accommodations can be arranged. Please direct requests to Sheila at sheila.stosky@ualberta.ca or 780.492.1525 before noon on Monday, April 12.

Your presence, your ideas, your voice are important. Please join us for this significant event.





the open door

Setting the record straight

The following letter is an unabridged (and slightly edited for reprinting here) version of a letter sent by Provost Carl Amrhein to the editor of the Edmonton Journal.

A recent article in the *Edmonton Journal* focused on the University of Alberta's administration costs. The story presented an incomplete and misleading picture of our university, an extremely complex \$1.5-billion enterprise.

There are five points that clarify or correct points made by the article:

1. The province's auditor general audits the university annually and, further, the province requires a report on administrative expenditures as a proportion of specified operating

expenditures for which the top level of excellence is considered five per cent or less. The U of A sits at 4.7 per cent, nearly 10 percentage points below the Journal's reported figure.

2. One simply cannot look at percentages of expenditures without looking at related revenues. The analysis upon which the story is based looks at only one part of the university's budget and follows the false assumption that university activities and expenditures can be divided into separate learning and research categories with no cross-over effects. There are expenses in the U of A's operating budget that have a massive impact on teaching through funding for professors, students and equipment. In fact,

the sponsored research and related capital funding in the U of A budget produces direct benefit to the learning experience of \$270 million (\$55 million to students for scholarships and research jobs, \$61 million for extra professors, \$61 million for cutting-edge equipment, \$86 million in research facilities, \$14 million for costs related to research). The Journal did a marvelous story on our undergraduates engaged in nanotechnology research recently. That's a perfect example of students deriving a direct benefit from "central" expenditures.

3. Relying on data from the Canadian Association of University Business Officers, which looks solely at expenses, fails to take into account

the very different ways that post-secondary institutions are structured and account for their expenses. For example, there is a direct correlation between external research funding (revenue) and the university's Research Services Office, which flow funds relating to the teaching and research enterprise but appear solely as an operating expense in the CAUBO data. Similarly, our international student engagement unit appears solely as an operating expense but directs millions of dollars directly into the faculties. Advancement (fundraising) activities appear solely as an expense yet generate many millions in gifts and partnerships—this year more than \$88 million in a difficult economy.

4. Other post-secondary institutions, including within Campus Alberta, benefit from and rely on U of A expenditures, particularly with respect to libraries. Many other schools are buying fewer academic journal subscriptions and books because they can access U of A's materials through various library partnerships.
5. Finally, as noted in the story, there has been a significant increase in mandates, laws and expectations upon post-secondary institutions that drive growth in administration costs. A few examples include the areas of health and safety, freedom of information, litigation, biohazard safety, environmental sustainability, information technology security and employment standards. ■

Letter to the university from the president

Indira Samarasekera
U of A president and vice-chancellor

Over the last several months, the faculty, staff and students of the University of Alberta have worked to find a balanced solution to a projected budget gap of \$59 million. Together, we strove to do as much as we could to minimize spending reductions that would lead to reductions in staff, faculty, programs, program quality and services. Each constituency on campus has done their part.

Overall, we have made much progress, but at the same time, we have also had to reduce spending across the university by an average of five per cent to achieve a balanced operating budget. This reduction affects every budget, including

mine, those of the vice-presidents and every unit on campus. The government has also indicated that next year's budget will, at best, contain no new money for universities, so there is no doubt that the next two years will present significant financial challenges.

In the short term, deans, chairs and administrators have begun activating plans drawn up for reducing expenditures. Sacrifices are being made by every administrative and academic unit. Depending on the priorities and decisions made at the faculty level, the number and variety of course and program offerings may decrease in some areas; class sizes may increase and with them teaching loads, and some faculties may begin significant academic reorganizations.

These choices on the faculty level

will also be affected by the provincial government's announcement this week indicating that market modifier proposals have been accepted for business, engineering, pharmacy and graduate studies and rejected for medicine and law.

In all faculties and units, there will be involuntary lay-offs, contracts will not be renewed, and/or positions will be left vacant. Some lay-offs have already occurred and positions have already been left unfilled. We do not know yet how many people and positions will be ultimately affected. Until we know with certainty the full impact of Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program and voluntary five-day personal leave program, and until faculty and units firm up specific plans for making reduc-

tions, we are not able to report specific numbers.

Be assured that Human Resource Services is working with faculties and units to ensure that involuntary lay-offs are handled with the utmost care and respect for each individual affected. They will also help units adjust to personnel losses—addressing issues such as changes in workload and responsibilities for remaining staff.

As president, I ask you to step back for a moment and consider the U of A's situation. Things are undoubtedly tough right now and we face losses that we very much regret. I ask you to keep in mind the long-term view that is necessary for a successful university.

We have seen extraordinary success in attracting major external

funding from government, industry and donors in the last several years. We attract support because what we do at the University of Alberta is of tremendous value to society. In spite of financial challenges, faculty and staff remain dedicated to providing excellent educational opportunities and experiences for students, and U of A students and graduates continue to make valued contributions on campus, in the workplace, and in local, national and international communities.

The sacrifices that each of us is making now, in the short term, will get us through this difficult stretch as it has in the past and I am confident that with all of us working together, we will come out of this a stronger, more vibrant institution in the long term. ■

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Dysmenorrhea/Menopause syndrome
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Patient Testimonials:

1) "Near half our staffs have been in your clinic"—A staff of U of A Medicine department.

2) "You helped me lost 35 lbs. & my blood pressure reduced from 180/110 to 125/85. My 20 yrs neck & shoulder pain was gone."—A senior staff of U of A.

3) "I had sever sciatic pain from spinal stenosis, disc bulges & spinal cyst which are not operable. In 2 months, Dr. He has liberated me from most of the pain!"—A senior staff of U of A

surf city


Breast cancer affects one in nine North American women in their lifetime. With no big breakthroughs on the horizon, and a 10-year gap from the time a new drug is identified to when it comes to market, Edmontonian Andrew Hessel says it is time for a change. The founder of Pink Army Co-operative has created a new drug pipeline that he calls "an open source biotechnology venture that is member-owned and operated and not-for-profit."

It is "the first DIY drug company" that allows people interested in tackling cancer to connect and focus their passion, skills and other resources.

"Our mission is to build a new drug development pipeline able to produce

PINK ARMY CO-OPERATIVE

ABOUT US QUICK TOUR MEDIA SIGN UP NOW



Billions have been donated to cancer research, but the last "wonder drug" was approved in 1998.

It's time for a revolution.

What is Pink Army?
Pink Army isn't like anything you've seen before. A new approach to developing breast cancer treatments. Pink Army is a community-driven, member-owned Co-operative operating by open source principles. Using synthetic

Breast Cancer R&D is Stuck.
While the traditional approaches to breast cancer have helped in understanding cancer, little progress has been made in the area of treatment. For mid and late stage cancer, the best options are still radiation and

What do we do?
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effective therapies faster for less money, without compromising safety," he writes. "We're out to fundamentally change the way drugs are developed and, in the process, make better drugs. And we'll share what we learn openly, with everyone."

<http://pinkarmy.org>

staff spotlight

Giving old bones their due

Michael Brown

Allan Lindoe has found many important bones during his 43 years as a paleontology preparator at the University of Alberta, but no find is as important as the one he found before he even knew what a preparator was.

"I found a champsosaurus when I was a high-school kid," said Lindoe of the prehistoric lizard he stumbled upon while searching the badlands near his home town of Medicine Hat. "It was

more or less my job reference."

With that, Lindoe, who had no formal training in preparing fossils, began a fruitful career preparing specimens and exhibits for scientific study

or display that would change the way dinosaur bones are handled and see the U of A become one of the top paleontology research centres in the world.

"The U of A, particularly now, is undoubtedly the best university in Canada for paleontology, and it is certainly up there in North America," said Lindoe, who was awarded a Support Staff Research Enhancement Award during the Celebration of Research and Innovation March 30. "We have fairly extensive collections, particularly from the Cretaceous time zones to the present, which would be considered among the best in the world."

Lindoe was hired in December

1966 into the Department of Geology, before palaeontology became part of biological sciences, to collect and prepare any and all vertebrate fossils, dinosaur or otherwise.

As a preparator, Lindoe secures the specimens in a plaster jacket, much like a cast for a broken arm, to keep the specimen out of harm's way as it is transported to the lab.

If it sounds easy, it is only because Lindoe makes it so. In fact, each specimen, whether it be dinosaur, fish or a modern mammal,

Mark Wilson, professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and the Laboratory for Vertebrate Paleontology, says Lindoe poured over that MacKenzie Mountains' find for five months, running it through very diluted acetic acid baths, and interspersing that with gentle brushing with a camel's hair brush. The result was a single piece of rock with the complete skeletons of eight exquisite early vertebrate fossils belonging to seven different species and five different vertebrate

orders. Wilson says that particular specimen is referred to by palaeontologists the world over as the "wonder block."

"Allan is by far the best collector and preparator of fossils that I

have known, and it is because of his patience, care, skill and perseverance that the University of Alberta collections include some of the world's best fossils with outstanding significance for research and teaching," said Wilson. "As a mentor, Allan has modeled exemplary techniques and taught numerous undergraduate and graduate students how to find, care for, prepare, repair, mould, cast and otherwise enhance the scientific value of fossils."

The fact that each fossil presents a new set of challenges every day is the reason the master caster has made the U of A his only job and why, despite cutting back to half time four years ago and then actually retiring on March 30, Lindoe is still not quite ready to depart the university.

"My involvement will be reduced but it is certainly not over," he said, adding retirement will most like bring with it a small casting business where he will be available to continue to cast the university's specimens. "I really enjoy all aspects of the job. I like going out in the field. I like the diversity of what is actually being done."

"I guess I will continue what I have been doing all along." ■

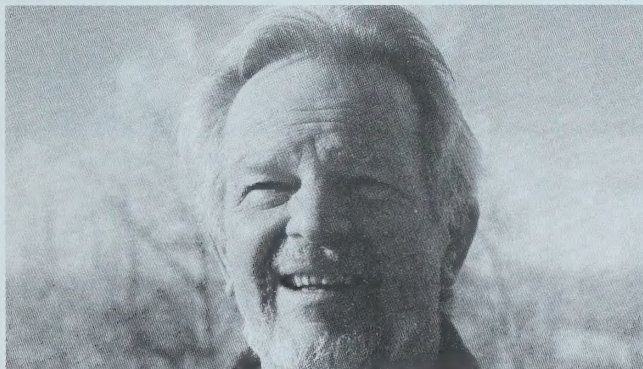
"The U of A, particularly now, is undoubtedly the best university in Canada for paleontology, and it is certainly up there in North America."

Allan Lindoe

has its own individual problems and each site requires different collecting techniques.

In instances where fossils are found in thin sheets of material and appear as flattened mineral stains, Lindoe developed an industry-wide technique for casting using an acid-etching procedure.

"We have some specimens from the MacKenzie Mountains that date back to the early Devonian period (416 million years ago)—right at the beginning of the age of fishes—and they were all very well preserved, but the method of preparing them was not known before we tried this new procedure," said Lindoe.



Allan Lindoe



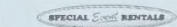
To reduce the weight of a fossilized rock, Lindoe split the stone and is seen here listening to the sound it makes. The fossil is now on exhibit in the Paleontology Museum in the Earth Sciences Building.

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Wireless wave washes across campus

Folio Staff

University of Alberta students, faculty and staff can stay connected anywhere on any campus with their computers, laptops and even iPods after completion of the University Wireless Service project on March 31.

"We have high-quality wireless Internet access across campus and, from my point of view, that's a prerequisite for a modern university," said Jonathon Schaeffer, U of A vice-provost (information technology).

"It's an impressive result, because

we have wireless virtually everywhere on campus. What's nice about the project is it came in on time, on budget, and with expanded scope, even though buildings kept sprouting up on campus."

The project, which cost \$3.5 million over the three-year implementation, has been set up on all U of A campuses in all spaces within publicly accessible buildings. Anyone with a wireless-equipped computer can sign in with their CCID and password.

It is meant to fill coverage holes that currently exist in wired networks throughout the university, and to augment the wired networks

rather than to replace them. Bandwidth capacity and security is still much higher with wired services, says Schaeffer.

"The reality is that the demand is already growing, so very soon we're going to have to start talking about expanded capacity."

"Now the wireless is everywhere; during the working day there are thousands of people who are using wireless for everything, which takes up a lot of bandwidth."

Signs in public areas will identify that UWS services are available at those locations. A list of UWS can be found at www.aict.ualberta.ca/units/uws/179. ■

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Artist invites students to pierce her masterpiece

Dawn Ford

Patti Pente is not afraid to take risks when it comes to teaching.

An art professor in elementary education, Pente recently challenged her students and colleagues to an unusual experience that included piercing holes through an original Canadian landscape painting she had created that now hangs in the main floor of the H.T. Courts Library, located in the Education Building on the U of A campus.

"I invited all who use the library. Some watched, some cut and prepared the materials, some taped wool and some pierced the painting with needles. The two-day performance created a community of learners, with decision-making continually being shared among the participants," said Pente.

According to the teacher and artist, the performance raised ques-

tions relating to people's uneasiness about putting holes in something of beauty that clearly took many hours to create. As a professor, it meant taking risks, yet she says it was one of the better lessons she taught this year.

"Students raised questions about the kinds of values we commonly place on artworks, and the differences between art as a beautiful object and art as an event that critiques those aesthetic values," said Pente. "I suggest that the very images we love can lull us into complacency with regard to sharing, preserving and caring for the land and for each other in the land."

Pente says this apparent paradox raises questions about the kind of values that are communally placed on artworks. Although, she says pleasure was gained in her lesson from viewing the landscape and recreating it through art, the former Canadian Society for the

Study of Education Arts Graduate Research Award winner wonders how to make meaningful connections between the myriad of images of wilderness landscape in society's visual culture and the ways that landscape is actually lived in.

"Let's face it, my crawling up and down a ladder, stringing wool across a room, stumbling over lines of wool in an increasingly difficult space is not the average image of a university professor at work, but this is about disrupting the normal, everyday spaces of learning so that students can begin to raise questions about the relationships of power embedded in social life," she said.

"I want student teachers to be willing to consider if and how they will authentically share power with their students. Such sharing can lead to children experiencing what it means to share responsibility as part of a community." ■



Elementary education art professor Patti Pente stands behind her Canadian landscape painting that was turned into an unusual classroom lesson.

Waterfall of plastic



Hundreds of plastic water bottles were arranged in an impromptu art installation at a water fountain in SUB March 26.

At Augustana, it isn't far from field to fork

Christopher Thrall

Before September 2008, the cafeteria at the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus in Camrose was supplied almost entirely by large food wholesale companies. So when Dean Roger Epp approached the manager of Food Services, Lilas Bielopotocky, to ask if they could deliver a dinner made of locally produced food once a month, she knew it would be a challenge.

Augustana chooses a topical, interdisciplinary academic theme each year. For 2008-09, the selection committee made food—From Field to Fork—its theme. For Epp, this was too good an opportunity to miss: academic and operational sides of the campus working together. It also matched his own research interests in rural communities and food security.

Unlike most institutions, Augustana runs its own cafeteria, where most meals are still made from scratch. In order to source what Bielopotocky needed locally, it meant a lot more effort from everyone. She would have to find producers that could supply enough food for upwards of 400 people. Her staff would face more preparation and cooking time.

"While Augustana might be located in an agricultural region, that doesn't necessarily mean that our students are more knowledgeable about their food," said Epp. "But a university cafeteria should understand the responsibility to students and the local farm economy that comes with feeding more than 400 residence students three times a day."

As expected, year one was a learning year, especially in building a network of suppliers. "What made it possible was our very skilled staff," said Epp.

"For that first supper, I needed 180 pounds of potatoes," said Bielopotocky. "I needed 180 pounds of roast beef and 150 pounds of carrots." It took them some time and a lot of chaos in the kitchen, but they



Lilas Bielopotocky knows no bounds when it comes to bringing locally produced food to Augustana's cafeteria.

ended up delivering a roast beef dinner with mashed potatoes, gravy and salad. In return, Bielopotocky's team received a standing ovation from the students, faculty, staff and producers in attendance. Since then, Augustana Food Services has moved to sourcing more than half of its food—including most of its meat, eggs, root vegetables and flour—from local suppliers.

"It is very difficult to find a single producer who can provide enough quantity for Augustana Campus," said Bielopotocky. "The food has to be of high enough quality and any processing facility has to be government-inspected." Bielopotocky makes a lot of phone calls to place orders or follow up, and meets producers all day long in the receiving area to ensure products are put away promptly. Surprisingly, however, her costs have not changed much. "I save money on the eggs and the cost of produce is about the same as I used

to pay. The beef is a little more expensive. It all works out, though, which is why we are able to keep doing it."

As a sustainability initiative last year, the Augustana cafeteria went trayless. Not only has the cafeteria seen a reduction in the amount of food waste, but the elimination of a half-gallon of wash water for 350 trays, three times a day, has resulted in significantly less water use. The cafeteria has eliminated disposable dishes and focuses on recyclable packaging in their purchasing decisions.

"Augustana's commitment to locally produced food is not a fad," Epp said. "This is about doing our part to shape a more balanced, less vulnerable food system as well as a more demanding food culture, one year's students at a time. We want the changes we make today to have a real impact on the future, on the future of agriculture, and on our communities." ■

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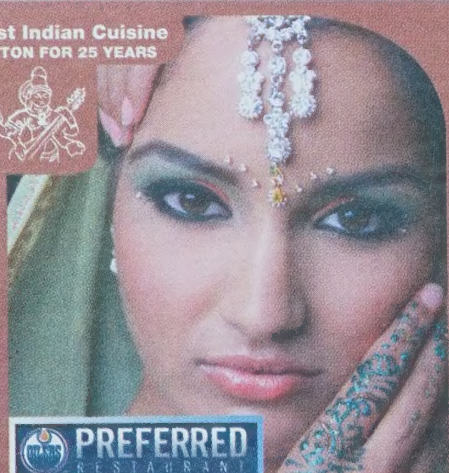
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Prairie Institute finds a new home on campus

Michael Brown

About 13,000 years ago, prehistoric man appeared on Alberta's Prairies looking for a new home. While the Plains could be a difficult area in which to live, bison were abundant and, thus, a life could be made.

Millennia later, those at the University of Alberta who have devoted their research to piecing together the fragmented past of Alberta's first inhabitants have also found a new home.

The Institute of Prairie Archaeology, formed in May of 2008 under the auspices of the Department of Anthropology in the Faculty of Arts, has recently taken over space formerly used by the Coulee Institute in HUB Mall.

"Cultural identities were created when people came out into the Plains region," said Jack Ives, profes-

sor of Northern Plains archaeology and executive director of the institute. "I hope the institute can shine a light on this very rich prehistoric past, much of it created by our First Nation's ancestors, and serve an outreach function with communities across the province and Western Canada."

Complete with laboratory facilities for handling artifacts and an area to use for teaching purposes as well as some office space, Ives says the institute will be better able to achieve its mandate to enhance public, First Nations and rural engagement with the university in archaeological, anthropological and interdisciplinary research in the Northern Plains region of Western Canada and the northern United States.

Ives, whose own research looks into the split between Canada's Dene people and Apache and Navajo people of the American south-

west, says the institute is paramount in bringing together disciplines from across campus to search for answers about the past.

"You can find something in the archeological record, and we can tell you about what it is, how old it was and that sort of thing, but there is all sorts of contextual information that a linguist, for instance, can reveal," said Ives, who has collaborated with linguistics professor Sally Rice to explore Apachean origins in Canada. "A linguist might be able to tell us what an object was called 2,000 years ago, and that has all these contextual meanings embedded in it."

Ives says the institute wants to encourage students to get interested in this dynamic area of study. There are currently two graduate students doing work for the institute.

Peter Stewart is looking into the effects heat has on Swan River chert, a rock commonly used for

making stone tools. Gabriel Yanicki, meanwhile, is in search of the Old Man's Playing Field, a famed arrow and hoop game field used by the Blackfoot people in the Crowsnest Pass that was thought to have been eroded by the Old Man River.

Ives is also preparing for the launch of the institute's field school at Lake Wabamun in mid-May. Here students will be working with TransAlta, excavating what appears to be a major residential site that was occupied from perhaps 8,000 or 9,000 years ago until about 3,000 years ago.

"We want to be at the edges of where our research overlaps to work with other highly specialized people at the university in order to round out the picture we have of the past," said Ives. "For those who want to practice archeology here in Western Canada, we have a pretty strong scope." ■



Jack Ives and the Institute of Prairie Archaeology have found a home in HUB Mall.

You've come a long way on film, baby!

Jamie Hanlon

A female director wins best director at the Oscars. A female-driven movie wins two Academy Awards, including best adapted screenplay. It may not be a huge sign, but it signals a huge shift in what the general public is watching and how Hollywood is viewing the much-maligned genre, the "chick flick."

Ashley Elaine York, a PhD student in sociology and first Corus Entertainment Fellow in Television Studies, says the new female-driven narratives are getting their due, largely as a result of a shift in identity from the date movies or tearjerkers of yore. These new films are being given treatment that was previously reserved for blockbuster movies, York noted. From the recent successes of some of these movies at the Oscars, such as *Precious* or *The Hurt Locker*, the trend is definitely catching on.

"The new model of the 'chick flick' is not the romantic comedy of years past. It's conceived and marketed in such a way that it's multi-pronged," said York. "There's a book, there's retail merchandise associated with it. It's a movie with spectacular visuals; it gets a lot of pre-release hype. It's tied into a soundtrack and into a star persona."

The traditional examples of this genre had limited, niche public appeal, says York. Movies such as *16 Candles* and *Clueless* were largely directed at teen audiences. While other movies like *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* developed a cult following, the movie likely didn't attract certain key demographics, such as men 26-35 or older women.

However, the formula and the appeal of the female-driven narrative are changing, notes York. The stories are topical and relevant for the modern woman. York says movies such as *Mamma Mia* and *Sex and the City* are multi-generational, multi-racial features starring both

genders and having a broad appeal. But they also treat women in a different way than traditional women-centred films.

"The chick flick is both a date movie and an empowerment movie," said York.

York says that this shift is likely to bring on more major changes to the new women's-film franchise revolution, some of which she notes are already happening. New stars are appearing all the time, she notes. "I think now you're seeing people [like *Precious*' Gabrielle Sidibe] become stars just for being in a movie when we really know little to nothing about them, except for the fact that they were in this movie," said York. "That's sort of a new wave."

Aside from more female-driven movies being produced, York says female stars can leverage more control over, and more latitude with, their films through their own productions companies. These types of movies allow female stars to explore topics that would not have been talked about before in any movie.

"This new formula works for what Drew Barrymore and Flower Films, her production company, did with *Whip It*," said York. The powerful female stars, be they actors, producers or directors, are also reaping the financial rewards of these new kinds of blockbusters. With the ladies of Tinseltown being able to wield that sort of power leads York to believe that the women are truly bringing out the "Holly" in Hollywood. And it's a trend that is not likely to end anytime soon.

"It's very exciting because you're talking about structural changes in the mechanism of Hollywood," York said. "Whenever you're dealing with structural changes, you're often dealing with something that's more long term, something that has a lasting effect, a lasting impact."

"I really do believe that we're in the decade of the woman. It just hasn't been recognized yet." ■

Growing 'pain' helps to win award

Noreen Remtulla

"Pain-in-a-dish" is what Patrick Stemkowski calls his current research experiment.

Stemkowski, a PhD student at the Centre for Neuroscience in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, focuses his research on how sensory nerves change after a traumatic incident; specifically, how neuropathic pain results from injury to the nervous system. He looks at the first contact between the traumatic incident and the nerve, where he believes pain is triggered by inflammation. During massive tissue injury, the immune system and inflammatory response kicks in to heal the body and recover from the injury.

Instead of using a human subject, Stemkowski uses artificial environments to test his theories on neuropathic pain. "What I do is apply inflammatory mediators in a dish with sensory neurons, which are the building blocks of the sensory nerves, and we can see if the hy-

pothesis is valid," said Stemkowski.

Stemkowski's research, along with his past contributions, was recognized when he was awarded the Lionel E. McLeod Health Research Scholarship awarded through Alberta Innovates Health Solutions earlier this month. This distinguished award is presented to an outstanding student at the universities of Alberta, Calgary and British Columbia.

Stemkowski will use his \$21,500 stipend to continue his research and look into hyper-reactive nerves that contribute to the constant sensation of feeling pain, even after a wound has healed.

"Patrick's receipt of the Lionel E. McLeod award will draw attention to the increasing interest in basic and clinical pain research in the province and will serve to attract additional outstanding students to the graduate and post-doctoral programs offered by the Centre for Neuroscience," said Peter Smith, professor in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, who first hired

Stemkowski as a lab technician and introduced him to pain medicine research.

"Winning this award is a great confidence booster," which Stemkowski says confirms his career choice.

The accomplished researcher credits this award to his diverse experiences outside medicine. After graduating from the U of A with a pharmacology degree more than a decade ago, Stemkowski followed his passion in music and produced three albums with two different bands. Running short on funds, he took a job in the Department of Pharmacology in hopes of refueling his musical lifestyle.

The award is named after Lionel E. McLeod, the founding president of Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research. McLeod was the head of endocrinology at the University of Alberta, dean of medicine at the University of Calgary, president of AHFMR and president and chief executive officer of the University Hospital in Vancouver. ■

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U of A leads search for magnetic monopole at CERN

Brian Murphy

An experiment led by a University of Alberta researcher at the European Centre for Nuclear Research, known as CERN, could dramatically change our concepts of basic physics, revolutionize our understanding of the universe and lead to technologies that only exist in science fiction.

U of A physics professor James Pinfold is leading an international team of physicists who are conducting a series of ultra-high energy

proton collisions inside the Large Hadron Collider at CERN. From the shrapnel-like debris produced by those collisions, researchers hope to find evidence of a magnetic monopole.

The magnetic monopole is a theoretical particle of matter. "Several important theories of physics are built on the belief that monopoles exist and it would be a great scientific coup to prove that," said Pinfold.

If successful, Pinfold says, physics textbooks from university level

right down to high school will have to be revised.

"Our conventional understanding of magnets tells us they have a north pole and a south pole," said Pinfold. "A magnetic monopole has only one pole and that will change our understanding and the potential of electromagnetism," the force that binds particles of matter together. "Electromagnet force is the reason that, when I sit down on a chair, I don't fall through it."

Pinfold says the discovery of electronic monopoles will open up a

whole new future for materials and technology if scientists can produce large numbers of them. "Monopoles could make materials strong enough to withstand a nuclear explosion and could also enable magnetic levitation."

To help explain the science of particle physics and the experiment to find the magnetic monopole Pinfold turned to a U of A colleague, Andy Kale, a research associate in the space physics group. Kale is a big fan of animated movies and says he was quite happy to take on the

challenge of the monopole movie. "I have no formal training in animation, but I have been tinkering with it for more than 15 years."

The U of A-led experiment is already underway at the LHC and Pinfold says he hopes to find evidence of magnetic monopoles early in 2011. "It's quite an honour to be conducting this experiment," said Pinfold. "We can't wait till we get our hands on the data from the LHC."

Pinfold's movie on magnetic monopoles is available on YouTube. ■

Gaming – step by step

Illeiren Poon

For one University of Alberta professor, making the move from California to Edmonton turned out to be the first step in becoming involved with an award-winning video game.

Nathan Sturtevant came to the U of A from the University of California, Los Angeles, where his work focused on artificial intelligence programming for multiplayer games like hearts or Chinese checkers. During a conference in Edmonton, he met Jonathan Shaeffer, U of A vice-provost (information technology), whose games work Sturtevant was familiar with.

"The U of A is well known for work in games and artificial intelligence," Sturtevant said. "I knew that there are really great people to work with here and I was very happy to come up and be part of the group."

Then, in 2005, Edmonton game developer BioWare approached the

U of A computing science department, looking for help with a "pathfinding" challenge in their game *Dragon Age: Origins*.

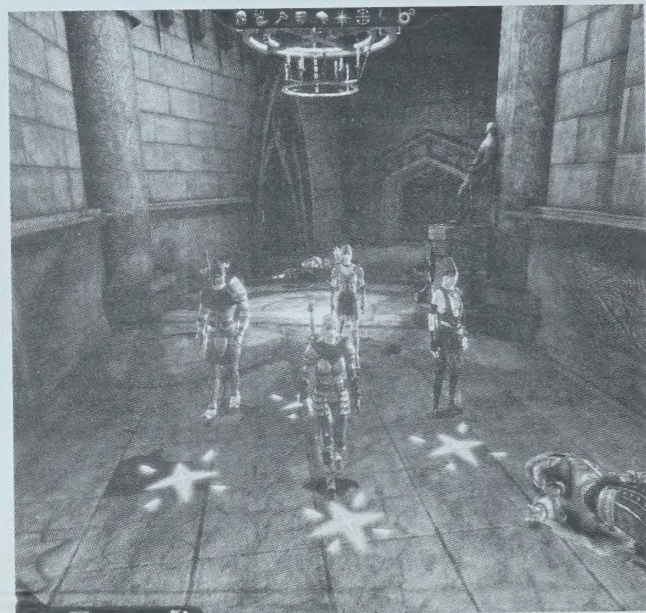
Pathfinding is a major element in most modern video games, but not one many gamers think about unless things go wrong. The ability to click a computer mouse to set digital characters in motion perhaps seems like it should be intuitive in this day of blockbuster games, but getting around or navigating in a complex and crowded game environment can make the journey slow and frustrating, the exact opposite of what video games are expected to deliver. Pathfinding allows the game programming to break the planning process into components, one following the other, so the program doesn't have to tackle all the planning at once.

So, faced with the challenges of creating pathfinding programming able to navigate complicated environments while minimizing

the amount of overhead in terms of memory needed, Sturtevant chose to break the decision-making process into separate levels, leaving the computer to calculate the steps needed by the character.

"In a lot of games when you say 'go do something,' the character sort of sits there for a while as the program is planning and then they take off," he said. "What we did then is you get this very high-level path that says 'You're going this way' and then we can then cut it down into small pieces. You don't need to figure out how to get all the way to your goal, you just need to figure out how to get to the next step along this path."

Working on *Dragon Age* was an exciting opportunity, said Sturtevant. "I get to be here in academia at the U of A and work on all these problems, but to be a part of something that millions of people are playing and enjoying, that's pretty thrilling." ■



Edmonton video-game developer BioWare approached computing science professor Nathan Sturtevant to help develop a pathfinding feature in the hit game *Dragon Age: Origins*.

Biosphere to the rescue

Gloria Jensen

Recycling, tree planting, carpooling. All over the planet people are taking steps to reduce their carbon footprint; however, mother nature is doing her part too.

John Gamon, a professor in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, is looking at the problem of atmospheric carbon

from a different angle: how nature reduces carbon in the atmosphere for free. Imagine the global business potential of more accurate measuring tools for carbon exchange, and you are viewing the biosphere from Gamon's vantage point.

Currently the science community has many ways to measure the carbon exchange between the Earth and the atmosphere. For some unexplained reason, the biosphere

has been slowing down the accumulation of carbon in the atmosphere. Some carbon is getting trapped in the biosphere, which reduces the rate of global warming.

Gamon plans to get industry involved in using carbon flux measurement tools to solve carbon emission problems, thereby enhancing the capability of the biosphere to capture carbon.

"Carbon stored naturally has value and carbon in the atmosphere loses its value. When we have the carbon captured, we gain something," Gamon said. "Managing our forests, farms and grasslands so that they are capturing carbon means we can put value on that."

When Gamon and his colleague, Susan Ustin of the University of California, applied for the Canada-California Strategic Innovation Partnership, they included a letter from TEC Edmonton, the university's exclusive technology transfer agent, which validated the market potential of Gamon's ideas. Kamren Farr, a TEC Edmonton market analyst, undertook an early market assessment that showed great promise for their plan, to create a Biospheric Carbon Index that will give people a way to tell whether a piece of land is gaining or losing carbon to the atmosphere.

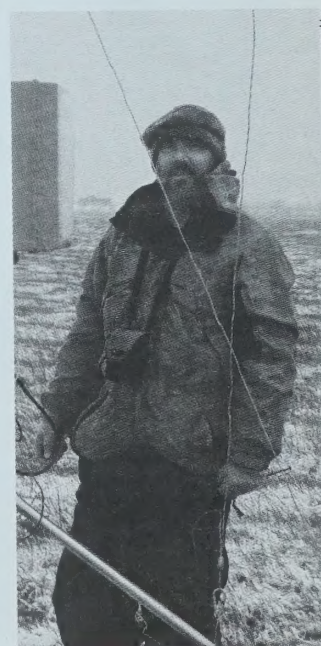
Recently Gamon and Ustin



were awarded \$100,000 in CCSIP funding to help them develop their action plan and \$69,765 will go towards the U of A. Gamon hopes to not only encourage people to invest in farms and factories that are "green," but also to provide more information about how to facilitate carbon capture in the biosphere.

Even though Gamon's ideas are at a very early stage of conceptualization, he has experienced the benefit of connecting with TEC Edmonton. He appreciated how well connected Farr is with the industry and the expertise and support that he received so far.

"I was very encouraged when I spoke to TEC Edmonton. They were able to grasp the potential of my proposal right away," Gamon said. He hopes to continue to work with TEC Edmonton as the details of his action plan are worked out.



John Gamon is looking at different ways of reducing carbon in the atmosphere.

Over the next few months, Folio will examine one of the cornerstones of the university's Dare to Discover vision, connecting communities, by examining the role TEC Edmonton plays in advancing mutual goals by fostering partnerships with business and industry. ■

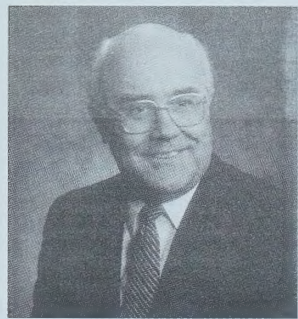
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Education says farewell to distinguished dean



Robert Patterson, dean of education from 1983–1991, died March 21.

Dawn Ford

The University of Alberta is mourning the passing of Robert Patterson, dean of education from 1983–1991, who died March 21.

Patterson's legacy is summed up best by the affectionate words pulled from the minutes of his final faculty council meeting as dean in May of 1991. In this document, Patterson is described as having a "paternalistic flair," and as a leader who spent his professional life "instilling a breath of life" into education's student association during a time of administrative challenges. He was also characterized as a "shirt-sleeve" dean who maintained a constancy of spirit during turbulent and economically challenging times within the faculty and university community.

Fern Snart, dean of the Faculty of Education, remembers Patterson as a kind and gentle leader who had an ability to identify the essence of an issue and offer sound judgment.

"During a time when deans served more traditional roles as academic leaders, Bob instituted many visionary coalitions and partnerships at the university," said Snart. "In particular, he lived his vision of creating a more collaborative environment both within his faculty and between the faculty and the field."

Born in Fort MacLeod on June 8, 1937, Patterson received both his bachelor and master of education degrees from the U of A, and his doctorate in the history and philosophy of education at Michigan State University. In 1990, he was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Lethbridge.

Patterson taught at the U of A for more than 30 years, including his time as dean. In 1992, he moved to Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, where he spent the concluding years of his professional career as dean of the McKay College of Education.

"He is remembered by his students and colleagues for his sensitivity to the human element in any problem or proposal," said Snart. "He exemplified the values of a scholar and an educator and did it with humility and a sense of humour."

"He was a real statesman." ■

U of A program gets top award for innovative application

Skye Rodgers

A software information literacy assessment application developed at the University of Alberta has won an award from the Association of College and Research Libraries. The program, WASSAIL, brought home the U.S.-based associations' Instruction Section Innovation Award for 2009.

"International awards such as this are a great way to raise global awareness of innovations and forward-thinking initiatives being led by the University of Alberta," said Ernie Ingles, U of A vice-provost and chief librarian.

The Association of College and Research Libraries award recognizes a project that demonstrates creative, innovative or new approaches to information literacy instruction or programming. Augustana Campus' head librarian Nancy Goebel, who, along with project programmer Dylan Anderson, developed the application, says WASSAIL is in response to a need in libraries that offer information literacy instruction.

"When we developed our information literacy courses in 21 different disciplines, we were unable to measure students' skills before and after the courses. So we decided to develop WASSAIL," said Goebel. "It meets the initial needs and now

we can also do more things with it, such as assessment of student learning, evaluation of teacher or learning experience, and the ability to do survey or online quizzes."

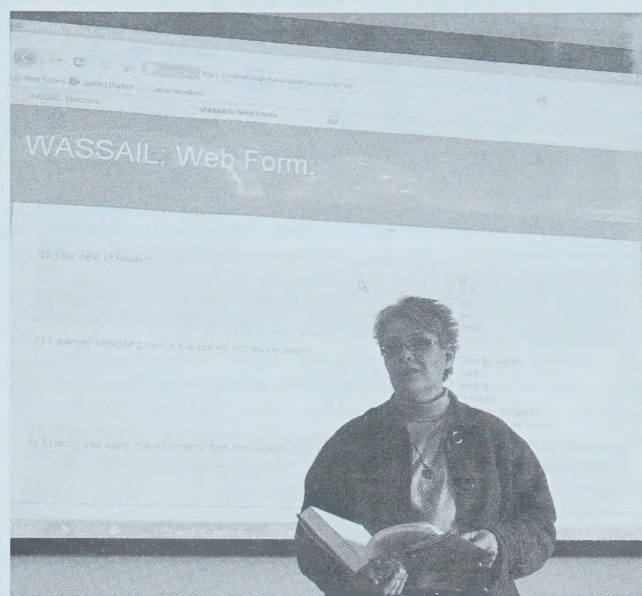
The program is being used at Red Deer College's literacy teaching programs. Michelle Edwards Thomson, librarian at the college, says WASSAIL meets a specific need at their library.

"Since it is a Canadian tool, our data doesn't have to be stored in a server outside of Canada," said Thomson. "It's also a lot more flexible and because it was designed for information literacy assessment, so it fits our needs much better than generic survey software."

Anderson says the open source, database driven web-based application, which is now widely distributed and used in academic institutions worldwide, is also changing the way professors work.

"WASSAIL offers an opportunity to assess student learning and evaluate the effectiveness and learning outcomes of information literacy instruction," said Anderson. "It also addresses some of the complex needs in our information society."

WASSAIL, which is available to the public for free, is being now being used to manage qualitative and quantitative data in surveys around the world. The Association of College and Research Libraries psychol-



Augustana Campus' head librarian Nancy Goebel, who, along with project programmer Dylan Anderson, developed WASSAIL in response to a need in libraries to offer information literacy instruction.

ogy information literacy standards committee has used WASSAIL to survey psychology teaching faculty across the world.

Janet Wasselius, U of A philosophy professor, is currently using the application to measure the quality of her students' writing when they prepare their assignments electronically compared to a hand-written paper. She says the application is

very useful.

"Every week I ask the class to answer a series of quantitative and qualitative questions about their learning," said Wasselius. "The course isn't over yet, but so far I've found it a very positive experience. We talk about how [the students'] experience of writing and thinking is different depending on the technology they're using." ■

Nursing students walk the inner-city streets to see social issues

Carmen Leibel

It's called the Social Issues Walk and the goal is to show first-year University of Alberta nursing students the complexity of poverty and homelessness. The walk exposes the students to issues surrounding housing, education, health care and the various agencies in Edmonton's downtown core.

First-year student Christine Neufeld said she learned a lot from the community member who came with her group on the Social Issues Walk in March. Neufeld said the McCauley community member told the students about a difficult landlord that she has to deal with and how much she has to pay for a very small,

run-down, one-bedroom suite.

"It was interesting to see how they live and how they're trying to make ends meet," said Neufeld. "It will help me not to be judgmental toward my future patients."

"It allows us to realize how much support they need," added Neufeld's classmate Greg Pohlod.

Vera Caine, a professor in the Faculty of Nursing, says it's important to have the students understand the issues at an early stage in their nursing career as these are topics they will face in the future when working alongside clients.

"The goal of the course is to help students envision possibilities and realities of community nursing," said Caine.

"Focusing on the needs of marginalized, underserved populations is especially critical at a time when extensive health care restructuring is taking place across the province."

The Social Issues Walks began in January and is part of a partnership between the University of Alberta's Faculty of Nursing and The Mustard Seed, an organization that seeks to address poverty in greater Edmonton and often provides hot meals and warm clothes for the less fortunate.

Each week 16 students walk the streets of the inner city to meet community members, talk about relevant issues and learn about landmarks such as the Mustard Seed, the York Hotel, the Edmonton Remand

Centre and the former site of Tent City.

The walk is led by Leanne Janzen from the Mustard Seed, who is also accompanied each week by a community member who provides commentary on what it's like to live in the area.

"The two-and-a-half hour walk is a fitting way to expose the students and get the conversation started to disband myths and tackle stereotypes," said Janzen.

The Social Issues Walk has already made an impact on Neufeld and Pohlod, who both say they would like to do the walk again towards the end of their degree.

"It gave me a new view on life," said Neufeld. ■

Physical therapy students provide care for community

Carmen Leibel

Physical therapy students from the University of Alberta's Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine are putting their skills to the test by providing care for some of our city's most vulnerable.

Every second weekend a group of first- and second-year students offer free services for inner city at-risk youth and adults at the Boyle McCauley Health Centre. Students provide services such as exercises, stretches and health education for those who suffer from chronic pain, a disability or an injury.

"We really try to connect with the clients that come in, to see what health conditions they have and how

we can adapt what we do to serve them," said Jessie Gibson, a second-year physical therapy student.

Gibson says they often have to make quick decisions and are encouraged to think outside of the box when prescribing intervention.

"For example," said Gibson, "we have had to figure out how a history of violence or abuse may play into recovery from a physical injury. This really is great learning experience for us."

The program began in January and is part of the Shine Youth Clinic, an interdisciplinary student-directed health clinic that provides comprehensive health services for local youth in the inner city.

Mark Hall, clinical co-ordinator for the Department of Physical Ther-

apy, says the importance of the clinic is twofold: "The clinic is an important learning tool for the physical therapy students and it also provides care for the inner-city community."

Hall says the clinic diversifies the students clinical practice experiences as they are exposed to a population with different needs and helps them see how they can play a role in improving the quality of life for others in the community. The students also learn about the importance of inter-professional collaboration as they work with other students representing disciplines including medicine, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, social work and nutrition.

"Through this partnership we hope to raise the awareness of phys-

iotherapy in general, as well as the participation of our faculty with the other faculties involved." Hall adds, "We hope to fill a gap and provide services to at-risk youth and adults who would more than likely not be able to afford private physical therapy services in the community."

Gibson agrees with Hall and says the hands-on learning is invaluable.

"We are afforded the opportunity to apply our skills and take the time to do it well. Above all, we are fortunate to learn from each person that comes into the clinic and add that learning into our tool kits as future physiotherapists."

"We hope to build up our relationship with this population and our effectiveness to serve them." ■

news [shorts]

Folio presents a sample of some of the stories that recently appeared on ExpressNews, the U of A's online news source, and other campus news sources. To read more, go to www.expressnews.ualberta.ca.

PhD students working to commercialize nanotech energy storage

Two Faculty of Engineering PhD students have made it to the semifinals of an international technology commercialization competition with a plan to commercialize technology that could lead to more efficient hybrid and electrical cars.

Michael Thomas and Jaron Van Dijken are part of an international team competing for \$25,000 in prize money at the Global Venture Challenge at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee. The team is pitching a product based on nanotechnology techniques developed by U of A electrical engineering professor Michael Brett.

"Especially as an engineer in energy, it is important to understand technology commercialization," said Thomas.

"Learning more about commercialization really compliments our education," added Van Dijken. "It helps us to connect science to society."

Green & Gold Garden set to grow

The Green & Gold Community Garden grows organic vegetables and herbs on land at the U of A South Campus Research Station. The garden operates as a partnership between the School of Public Health and the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences and is once again readying itself for another season of good growing and eating.

Last year, during its first year of operation, the garden raised \$16,000 for Tubahumurize, a non-profit organization in Rwanda that supports and empowers socially and economically marginalized women. According to its founder, Sarah Bowen, all of the money donated in exchange for the garden's produce goes directly to the organization's programs where women are provided with counseling, life-skills coaching, health-care education and opportunities for sustainable income generating activities.

Bowen, an associate professor in the School of Public Health, says, "The dollars raised last year went to Tubahumurize's trauma counseling for women and sewing skills training program for women and teens, whose lives and education were disrupted by the Rwandan genocide.

"This is a chance to make a difference in the lives of people we will likely never meet, but whose very humanity connects them to us."

American Hockey League beckons Golden Bear

Fourth-year Golden Bears hockey winger Jesse Gimblett has signed an amateur try-out contract with the Springfield Falcons of the American Hockey League.

The Newtonville, Ont. native spent the past four seasons skating for the Green and Gold at the U of A, where he posted career numbers of 47 goals and 40 assists in 104 conference regular season games. Gimblett, a physical education and recreation student, led Canada West this season in power-play goals with 10, after finishing second in conference play last year with nine.

At the recent University Cup championship tournament, the 6-foot-3, 218-pound power forward continued his success, notching two goals and one assist in three games as the Bears picked up the silver medal. ■

laurels

John McDougall will take over as the National Research Council's new president on April 19. McDougall received his bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from the U of A in 1967. McDougall is CEO of Innoventures Canada and a director of PFB Corporation. From 1997 to 2009 he served as CEO of the Alberta Research Council, and from 1991 to 1997 served as inaugural management chair for engineers in the Faculty of Engineering at the U of A.

The 2010 Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award Winners have been announced. The recipients are **Connie Varnhagen**, professor in the Department of Psychology; **Mani Vaidyanathan**, professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering; and **Clarence Wong**, professor in the Department of Gastroenterology. The purpose of the award is to recognize teaching excellence by full-time continuing academic staff.

Lynette Shultz, professor in the Department of Educational Policy Studies, and **Jonathan White**, professor in the Department of Surgery, have both been

awarded the 2010 Provost's Award for Early Achievement of Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. This award recognizes the achievement of teaching excellence by full-time continuing academic staff within five years of their first university appointment.

Sharon Mitchell, clinical associate professor in the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and **Rachel Milner**, faculty service officer in the Department of Biochemistry, have both awarded the 2010 William Hardy Alexander Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. This award recognizes excellence in undergraduate teaching by academic staff.

The Biochemistry Student Services Teaching Group, made up of **Rachel Milner**, **Jonathan Parrish**, and **Adrienne Wright**, all faculty service officers in the Department of Biochemistry, has won the 2010 Teaching Unit Award. This award recognizes publicly teaching excellence that occurs as a result of the collaboration of instructors.



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talks & events

Folio Talks and Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in Folio and on ExpressNews at: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

Until April 30

Marginated: Seventeenth-Century Printed Books and the Traces of Their Readers. This exhibition takes a century's worth of books as its subject, and displays a wide range of evidence for their reading and handling. Open daily in the Bruce Peel Special Collections Library, located 87 Rutherford South Library.

April 11

Toby and Saul Reichert Holocaust Lecture. "Genocide in a Multiethnic Town: Events, Origins, Aftermath," will be given by Omer Bartov, John P. Birkelund, distinguished professor of European history and professor of history and German studies at Brown University. Presented by the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies. 6 p.m., the Tory Lecture Theatre.

April 12

Last Day of Classes Goodie Give Away. Come and celebrate the last day of classes and enjoy free cookies and punch. Bring your friends to the mural and Rutherford locations in HUB Mall. 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

April 14

SEE The Research at Work Seminar Series Presents. Diana Gibson, researcher at the Parkland Institute, presents "Beyond Booms and Busts: Making Alberta More Stable and Sustainable." She will discuss what the boom and bust cycle has meant for

Albertans and what Alberta can learn from Norway. Noon to 1:30 p.m. Glacier Room Lister Centre.

10th annual Capstone Awards Banquet. The 10th annual Capstone Awards Banquet celebrates outstanding design talent graduating from the U of A mechanical engineering and industrial design classes. 5–9:30 p.m. in 1-047 Lister Centre Lister Centre.

April 15

Final Reading by Writer-in-Residence Hiromi Goto. A reception will follow this final reading by our writer-in-residence. 3:30 p.m. HC L-3 Humanities Centre.

April 16

Making a Difference with CBR: Mobilizing Knowledge to Inform Policy and Practice. This is the final workshop in our community-based research workshop series. Learn how CBR can be an effective means to create and share knowledge, analyze a knowledge-mobilization framework, identify ways to share CBR results and network with others interested in influencing policy and practice. 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Enterprise Square.

Department of Economics Macro Seminar. Michael Elsby, professor at the University of Michigan, will be on hand to give a talk entitled "Disciplined Estimates of Gross Flows among Labor Market States," with San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank economist Bart Hobijn and Federal Reserve Bank of New York economist Aysegül Sahin. 3:30 p.m. at 8-22 Tory.

April 17

Preparing for Retirement Seminar. The University of Alberta Alumni Association is pleased to offer a full-day seminar on preparing for retirement. Led by one of Edmonton's leading professional retirement planners, the seminar will explore retirement from two perspectives: lifestyle and financial. Open to all alumni, friends and family. 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. TELUS Centre.

April 19

April Inaugural Professorial Lectures. All staff, students and members of the public are invited to attend the April Inaugural Professorial Lectures, which celebrate newly-appointed professors. April will feature: David Bigam (surgery), topic: "Training Physician-Scientists for Tomorrow"; Satyabrata Kar (medicine), topic: "Understanding Alzheimer's Disease: Some Recent Developments." 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Allard Family Theatre (Rm. 1-080) Katz Group Centre for Pharmacy and Health Research.

April 20 & 21

Trade and Investment in Energy and Environment Conference April 2010. Few policy issues at this time attract more interest than the conjunction of energy and the environment. To further understanding of this bundle of issues, the University of Alberta's China Institute, Alberta Institute for American Studies and the School of Energy and the Environment will be hosting a trilateral conference on: Trade and Investment in

Energy and Environment: Canada-China-U.S. This major conference will bring together senior industry leaders, policy makers and academic experts to examine the complex interaction of commercial, environmental and policy issues linking Canada, China and the United States. www.china.ualberta.ca/index.cfm

April 20

AHFMR Guest Speaker. Robert Mullen, professor and researcher in the Department of Molecular & Cellular Biology at the University of Guelph, will be giving a talk entitled "Plant Peroxisome Biogenesis: New Developments in Protein Trafficking and the Role of Peroxisomes in Viral Replication." 9:30–10:30 a.m. 628 Medical Sciences.

April 20

Academic Women's Association Spring Banquet. The Academic Women's Association will hold their annual spring banquet and general meeting at the Faculty Club. Members and non-members are invited to attend. This event will include a presentation by the AWA's 2009–10 Woman of the Year. For more information and to register please visit www.ualberta.ca/~awa/news.htm.

April 21

Miscarriage Stories: Voicing Maori Women's Wishes in Relation to Health Care Provision. Cassie Kenny, post-doctor-

al fellow in the Ethnicity & Health Research Program in the Faculty of Nursing will be giving this talk. Noon, 6-10 D University Terrace.

April 22

Educational Policy Studies Research Day. A celebration of the diverse research interests of students, sessional instructors and faculty members from the program areas of adult education, indigenous peoples education, educational administration and leadership, theoretical, cultural and international studies in education. Noon – 6 p.m. in fourth-floor lounge of Education North.

Implementation of Nutritional Guidelines in Elderly Care in Sweden. Anja Saletti and Johanna Töremä, researchers from Department of Public Health, Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism at Uppsala University in Sweden, will be on hand to talk about nutrition in Swedish elder care. Noon, 6-107 Clinical Sciences.

Research Forum Series-Education for the Masses and Mass Marketing. This presentation, "A History of the Material Culture of Kindergarten," describes popular education in the context of the material culture of kindergarten. While the common approaches in early childhood education differ in aspects of their philosophy, values and beliefs, most place considerable emphasis on materials. 3:30–4:30 p.m. in 122 Education South Education Centre.

classified ads

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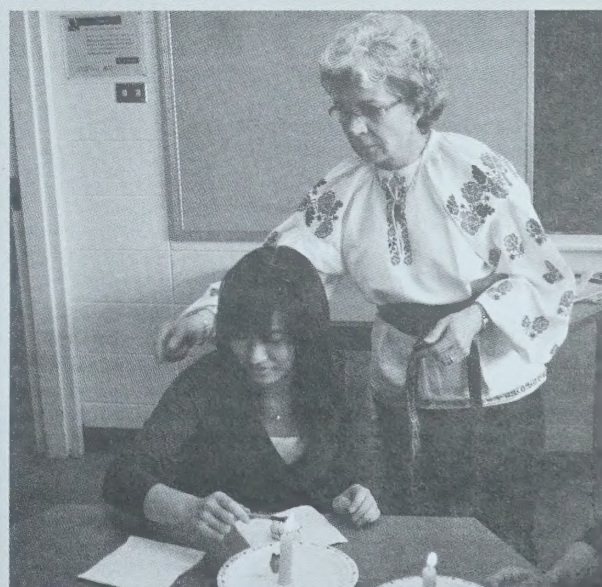
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Fine Arts Events



On March 26, Natalie Kononenko, professor of Ukrainian folklore, led students through the university's annual Pysanka Workshop where 30 participants were given a crack at the Ukrainian fine art of Easter egg decoration.

April 9

University of Alberta Concert Choir. University of Alberta Concert Choir spring concert 2010: *Love Songs for Springtime*. Evelyn Grieger, conductor. 8 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

April 10

Graduate Conducting Recital - Meghan Rayment. Graduate Conducting Recital Meghan Rayment Wroks by Haydn, Monteverdi and Schubert. 2:00 p.m., St Timothy's Anglican Church.

Music at Convocation Hall Series: Music of Today. Guillaume Tardif, violin;

William Street, saxophone; Don Ross, bass clarinet; Roger Admiral, piano. 8 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

April 11

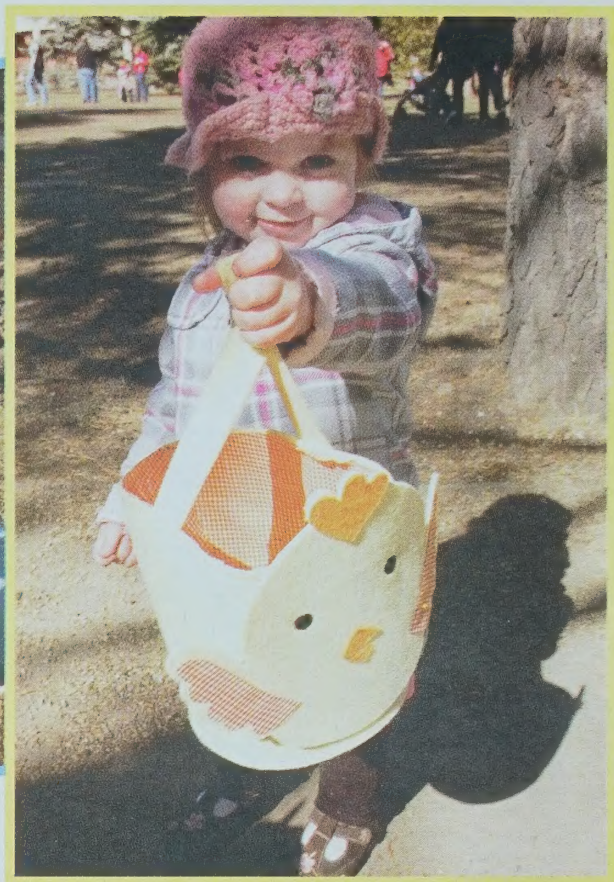
University of Alberta Concert Band. 2 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.

April 18

Doctor of Music Recital - Sandra Joy Friesen, piano. Doctor of Music recital Sandra Joy Friesen, piano. Works by Francois Couperin, Franz Liszt and Claude Debussy. 8 p.m. Arts and Convocation Hall.



Heath Rourke enjoys the spoils of a good hunt.



Hannah Gartner shows off the tools of the egg-seeking trade.

Easter Eggstravaganza

The University of Alberta's Arts/Business Quad was filled with young bunnies on April 3 as the Alumni Association hosted its third annual Easter egg hunt. Hundreds of alumni and their children hunted for 2,000 colourful, candy-filled treats that were hidden throughout the area.

Sometimes hunting the eggs comes second.



Sevryn Frey plucks some low-hanging fruit during the group hunt.



the
BackPage

If you're going to succeed in an Easter-egg hunt, you have to think like a rabbit, and look like one too.

